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COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS
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TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS DEANA WILLIAMSON CLERK

PD-0636-19

FILED COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS 12/11/2019 DEANA WILLIAMSON, CLERK

Michael Anthony Hammack, Appellant v. State of Texas, Appellee

On Discretionary Review from the Sixth Court of Appeals No. 06-18-00212-CR

On Appeal from the 354th Judicial District Court, Hunt County No. 32,355CR

Appellant's Motion to Extend Time to File Merits Brief

Jessica McDonald PO Box 9318 Greenville, TX 75404

Phone: 903-458-9108

Fax: 903-200-1359

jessica@jessicamcdonaldlaw.com

Texas Bar No. 24000994 Attorney for Appellant

To the Honorable Judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals:

Appellant moves for an extension of time of 30 days, from the filing of this motion, due to extraordinary circumstances. The State's prosecuting attorney does not object to this motion.

- 1. On **May 30, 2019**, in *Hammack v. State*, No. 06-18-00212-CR, *Hammack v. State*, 06-18-00212-CR, 2019 WL 2292334 (Tex. App.—Texarkana May 30, 2019, no pet. h.)(not designated for publication), the Court of Appeals affirmed Appellant's conviction.
- 2. On **August 2, 2019**, the petition for discretionary review was filed.
- 3. On **November 6, 2019**, the petition for discretionary review was granted.
- 4. The Merits Brief was originally due **December 6, 2019**.
- 5. On **December 5, 2019** Appellant asked for a 30-day extension to file the Merits Brief as the undersigned attorney's 16-year old daughter was on life support at Cook Children's in Ft. Worth.
- 6. On **December 6, 2019** the Court granted an extension until December 23, 2019.
- 7. Appellant relies on the following extraordinary circumstances as good cause to request a 30-day extension: Though it had been hoped the undersigned attorney's daughter would recover after receiving treatment for a rare lung disease, the diagnosis and treatment came too late. She passed away Monday morning, December 9, 2019. Services will be held this Friday the 13th. The undersigned

attorney is asking for a 30-day extension from today's date, to make the brief due on January 11, 2020, so she may have time to grieve and make it through the Christmas holiday. She will return to work after the first of the year with this brief as a priority.

8. This Motion is not filed for purposes of delay, but so that justice may be served.

Prayer

Appellant prays that this Court grant this motion for an extension of time to file the merits brief.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica McDonald P.O. Box 9318 Greenville, TX 75404 Phone: 903-458-9108 Fax: 903-200-1359 jessica@jessicamcdonaldlaw.com Texas Bar No. 24000996 Attorney for Appellant

/s/ Jessica McDonald
Jessica McDonald

Certificate of Service

I certify that on December 11, 2019, a copy of this document was served on Hunt County District Attorney Nobie Walker by Texas efile to nwalker@huntcounty.net and on Stacey Soule, State Prosecuting Attorney, by Texas efile to stacey.soule@spa.texas.gov, and information@spa.texas.gov. *See* Tex. Rule App. Proc. 9.5 (2017) and Tex. Rule App. Proc. 68.11 (2017).

/s/ Jessica McDonald

Jessica McDonald